

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Claims 1-8 (Cancelled).

9. (New) A method of analyzing a minute content of a polymer, the method comprising:

placing a pellet of a polymer material, including a minute content of a material different from the polymer material, on a face of a substrate, wherein the face of the substrate is one of silver and gold;

disposing an organic solvent, which dissolves the minute content in the pellet of the polymer material, between the face of the substrate and the pellet of the polymer material;

maintaining the organic solvent between the face of the substrate and the pellet of the polymer material at room temperature and extracting the minute content from the pellet of the polymer material by dissolving the minute content in the organic solvent;

removing the pellet of the polymer material from the face of the substrate; and
analyzing the face of the substrate by time-of-flight secondary ion mass spectrometry and thereby identifying the minute content.

10. (New) The method as recited in claim 9, wherein the organic solvent includes, dissolved within the organic solvent, a silver composition.

11. (New) The method as recited in claim 9, including vibrating the substrate while maintaining the organic solvent between the face of the substrate and the pellet

of the polymer material, dissolving the minute content in the organic solvent, and maintaining the organic solvent at room temperature.

12. (New) The method as recited in claim 10, including vibrating the substrate, while maintaining the organic solvent between the face of the substrate and the pellet of the polymer material, dissolving the minute content in the organic solvent, and maintaining the organic solvent at room temperature.

13. (New) The method as recited in claim 9, including exposing the pellet of the polymer material to an ambient of saturated vapor of the organic solvent while maintaining the organic solvent between the face of the substrate and the pellet of the polymer material, dissolving the minute content in the organic solvent, and maintaining the organic solvent at room temperature.

14. (New) The method as recited in claim 10, including exposing the pellet of the polymer material to an ambient of saturated vapor of the organic solvent while maintaining the organic solvent between the top face of the substrate and the pellet of the polymer material, dissolving the minute content in the organic solvent, and maintaining the organic solvent at room temperature.